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cases. The cases, I am informed, occurred in various parts of Naples, namely, Barra, Poggioreale, Vomero, Fuorigrotta, and San Giovanni. Clinically and microscopically the diagnosis was confirmed, and the bacteriological examination was in progress.

All cases are being removed to the isolation station at the island of Nisida, about 5 miles from Naples, and the most strenuous measures of disinfection are being applied to all persons, places, and things suspected of infection.

Vessels bound to other Italian ports are, by the orders of the ministry of the interior to the prefect of Naples, submitted to rigid sanitary measures before leaving Naples. All passengers and crew are required to undergo a medical examination. The passengers, on arrival at their destination, will be visited medically for seven days at their places of lodgment. The effects of passengers, the cargo, and the vessels are being disinfected both before clearing and after their arrival. Vessels at the wharf are supplied with rat shields, and asphyxiating gases are used to destroy rodents aboard.

It is stated that there is a noticeable mortality among rats, and that the plague bacillus has been found in the bodies of rats dead at the Punto Franco.

In regard to the measures being taken by the Marine-Hospital Service at this port, the steamship companies have been informed that the United States Quarantine Regulations, with amendments and additions thereto, will be strictly insisted upon as a preliminary to granting bills of health.

Of the 2 steamships billed to leave Naples for New York to-day, namely, the *Hohenzollern*, of the North German Lloyd, and the *Patria*, of the Fabre Line, the companies have decided that the latter will not sail, and that the former will refuse pratique at Naples and take on no passengers or cargo here.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Inspections at Naples and Palermo—Plague and smallpox in Naples.

NAPLES, ITALY, September 30, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended September 28, 1901, the following ships were given bills of health:

September 22, the steamship *Tartar Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 446 steerage passengers and 124 pieces of large baggage. Six hundred and seventy-two pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

September 26, the steamship *Hohenzollern*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company. On the 26th instant the vessel arrived from Genoa at the time the excitement from the announcement of plague at Naples was at its highest pitch. Telegraphic communication had been interrupted by order of the Italian authorities, and it was not known what modifications of the United States Quarantine Regulations to be observed at foreign ports would be allowed. The agents, therefore, decided not to embark emigrants. The Italian authorities refused permission to embark cabin passengers if the ship did not take the steerage passengers. The captain thereupon refused to take pratique and left

the port without taking on cargo or passengers and without coming to the wharf or communicating directly with the shore. A bill of health was given on which were stated these facts.

Plague at Naples.

The number of cases of plague at Naples since September 7, 1901, is 14, with 4 deaths. So that 3 new cases have appeared since my report dated September 26, 1901. The first of the new cases was a porter from the Punto Franco, the point at which the plague is supposed to have entered Naples. This porter was taken sick at his home at San Genaro, Mercato Section, in the center of Naples. The second case was a vagabond who ordinarily slept in the open air in the Villa del Popolo, Mercato Section, and the third was one of exposed persons detained at the sanitary station at the island of Nisida. In these new cases referred to, the clinical diagnosis has not yet been verified bacteriologically.

Rigorous measures of disinfection are in progress in all places where real or suspected cases have occurred. At the Punto Franco, all means of disinfection have been applied, and the destruction by fire under royal decree of the valuable stores of the bonded warehouses is under consideration. All the vessels in the harbor are provided with devices to prevent rats going aboard. Antipest serum is being used wherever persons are exposed to infection. I have sent to the Pasteur Institute for a supply of antipest serum to be used for the employees of the Marine-Hospital Service and consulate at Naples if necessary. It has not yet been decided when, by what vessel, and from what port the pest was brought to Naples.

The contents of your telegram authorizing a modification of the regulations was received September 28, 1901. The steamship people here are ready and willing to cooperate with the service in carrying out all measures prescribed. While the work of the station is likely to be greatly increased by the presence of the plague in Naples, in addition to the smallpox epidemic still prevailing here and in other ports of Italy, there will, I think, be no difficulty in efficiently handling all vessels bound for ports of the United States.

Smallpox in Naples.

During the week ended September 28, 1901, there were officially reported 71 cases of smallpox with 4 deaths.

Inspections at Palermo.

September 23, the steamship *Tartar Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 210 steerage passengers and 20 pieces of large and 170 pieces of small baggage. Seventy pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

September 25, the steamship *California*, of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New Orleans. There were inspected and passed 750 steerage passengers and 99 pieces of large and 1,030 pieces of small baggage. One hundred and ninety pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

During the present week there will be 2 departures of emigrant ships from Palermo to America. The inspection as heretofore directed will be conducted by the Service at this station.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.